

Excellent Signalman badge, by the NKPS factory, mid-1940s.

Brass, enamels; measures 45.9 mm x 37.3 mm; weighs 16.2 g without the screw plate. Early type featuring elongated shield and domed center medallion. Upper scrolls form a wavy outline on the top edge of the badge.

In very fine to excellent condition, far above average for a Soviet "combat proficiency" badge of WW2 era. The enamel is very well preserved and exhibits attractive luster. There are a couple of tiny surface flakes at the edges of the sickle, but they are nearly unnoticeable to the naked eye. Beside that, the red enamel has only tiny contact marks and minimal amount of rubbing to the apex of the center medallion. The white band shows rubbing and some imbedded dust, no chips or flaking.

The details of the wreath and Signal Corps emblem are nicely preserved and crisp; some of the original gilt finish is still visible in their recessed areas. Most of the original grey finish along the edge of the shield is intact. The silver plating on the reverse is practically pristine. The screw post is full length, approx. 14 mm, and comes with original screw plate marked "ShMZ-NKPS" which works perfectly well with the screw.

/See Breast Badges of the Red Army, 1941-1945, p. 110, fig. 4/.

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